



# Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 645**

February Session, 2022

Substitute Senate Bill No. 215

*Senate, April 26, 2022*

The Committee on Appropriations reported through SEN. OSTEN of the 19th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

## **AN ACT CONCERNING ENGINEERING AND MAINTAINER POSITIONS AT THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2022*) (a) The Commissioner of  
2 Administrative Services, in consultation with the Commissioner of  
3 Transportation, shall, within available resources, recruit interns for the  
4 state's engineer intern job classification, as needed, for selection and  
5 appointment by the Department of Transportation. The Commissioners  
6 of Administrative Services and Transportation shall, within available  
7 resources, promote such recruitment at public and independent  
8 institutions of higher education.

9 (b) On and after July 1, 2023, and annually thereafter, the  
10 Commissioner of Administrative Services shall, within available  
11 resources, increase the rate of compensation for the state's engineer  
12 intern job classification by the percentage increase, if any, in the national  
13 consumer price index for urban wage earners and clerical workers for  
14 the previous twelve-month period.

15       Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2022*) On and after July 1, 2022, and  
16 until June 30, 2025, (1) the Commissioner of Administrative Services  
17 shall, within available resources, place entry-level engineering and  
18 maintainer positions and level two maintainer positions at the  
19 Department of Transportation on continuous recruitment, and (2) not  
20 later than sixty days after a candidate submits an application for such  
21 entry-level engineering or maintainer position or level two maintainer  
22 position, the Commissioner of Transportation shall either make an offer  
23 of employment to such candidate or reject the application of such  
24 candidate.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

|           |                     |             |
|-----------|---------------------|-------------|
| Section 1 | <i>July 1, 2022</i> | New section |
| Sec. 2    | <i>July 1, 2022</i> | New section |

**APP**       *Joint Favorable Subst.*

*The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.*

## **OFA Fiscal Note**

### **State Impact:**

| <b>Agency Affected</b>                           | <b>Fund-Effect</b> | <b>FY 23 \$</b>   | <b>FY 24 \$</b>   |
|--|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Department of Transportation                     | TF - Cost          | Less than 100,000 | Less than 100,000 |
| Department of Administrative Services            | TF - Cost          | Up to 602,784     | Up to 302,784     |
| State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits <sup>1</sup> | TF - Cost          | Up to 122,718     | Up to 122,718     |

Note: TF=Transportation Fund

### **Municipal Impact:** None

### **Explanation**

**Section 1** requires the Department of Administrative Services (DAS), beginning in FY 23, to increase the rate of pay for the state's engineering intern job classification by the consumer price index for urban wage earners and clerical workers (known as CPI-W) for the previous 12-month period. Actual costs to the employing agency, the Department of Transportation (DOT), will depend the number of interns hired, and the rate of inflation, but is expected to be less than \$100,000 in both FY 23 and FY 24.

**Section 2** requires DAS to place certain DOT positions on continuous recruitment and results in a fiscal impact of up to \$725,502 in FY 23 and up to \$425,502 in FY 24, which includes one-time costs of \$300,000 (FY 23 only) for a consultant to establish the recruitment process and up to

<sup>1</sup>The fringe benefit costs for most state employees are budgeted centrally in accounts administered by the Comptroller. The estimated active employee fringe benefit cost associated with most personnel changes is 40.53% of payroll in FY 23.

four new human resources position to manage the anticipated increase in applications (both years). If DAS is unable to hire additional staff to carry out this provision, it may slow down the rate at which DOT can fill vacancies.

sHB 5037, the FY 23 revised budget bill, as favorably reported out of the Appropriations Committee, appropriated \$600,000 for DOT internship recruitment and pay.

***The Out Years***

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

**OLR Bill Analysis****sSB 215*****AN ACT CONCERNING ENGINEERING AND MAINTAINER POSITIONS AT THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.*****SUMMARY**

This bill requires the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) commissioner and the Department of Transportation (DOT) commissioner to take certain actions related to recruiting engineers, engineer interns, and maintainers, within available resources.

The bill requires the DAS commissioner, in consultation with the DOT commissioner, to recruit interns, as needed, for the state's engineer intern job classification for selection and appointment to DOT. Both commissioners must promote recruitment at public and independent institutions of higher education. Starting July 1, 2023, the bill also requires the DAS commissioner to annually increase the pay rate for this job classification by any percent increase in the national consumer price index for urban wage earners and clerical workers for the previous 12-month period.

From July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2025, the bill requires the DAS commissioner to place entry-level engineering and maintainer positions and level two maintainer positions on continuous recruitment. It also requires that DOT either make an employment offer or reject a candidate within 60 days after receiving a candidate's application for these positions.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2022

**BACKGROUND*****Legislative History***

The Senate referred the bill (File 398) to the Appropriations

Committee which reported a substitute eliminating the appropriation for engineer recruitment and adding provisions stating the bill's recruitment and wage requirements must be implemented within available resources.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Transportation Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 35 Nay 0 (03/24/2022)

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 48 Nay 0 (04/18/2022)